SPECIFICATION

The specification has been amended to refer to the sequences contained therein by their corresponding SEQ ID NO: as found in the Sequence Listing. In addition, the specification has been amended to correct typographical errors.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 4, 5, and 7 have been cancelled. Claims 8-13 have been added. Support for these claim additions can be found in the specification and in the originally filed claims.

No new matter has been added by these claim amendments.

Applicants attach Appendix A with the newly revised claim set, primarily for the Examiner's convenience.

In addition, Applicants attach Appendix B which is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendments.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 4, 5, and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Applicants note that the specification teaches (for example, on page 20, Table 1) that the expression of the following genes was elevated in patients with inflammatory bowel disease relative to a control group: TARC, CCR4, CCR8, MIP-3α, CCR6, CCR7 and TNF-α. The specification further teaches that treatment of the inflammatory bowel diseases (*i.e.*, Crohn's lesional and ulcerative colitis) with steroids decreases the expression of these elevated genes. As such, the specification demonstrates a nexus between an agent that decreases these elevated genes and treatment of inflammatory bowel diseases.

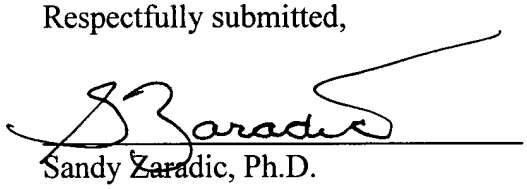
In re Wands 858 F.2d 731 (1988) addresses the rejection of a patent on the grounds that the specification would not enable a person skilled in the art to practice the invention without undue experimentation. In its analysis, the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit noted that "a patent need not disclose what is well known in the art." The Court further noted that "the determination of what constitutes undue experimentation in a given case requires the application of a standard of reasonableness, having due regard for the nature of the invention and state of the

art. The test is not merely quantitative, since a considerable amount of experimentation is permissible, if it is merely routine, or if the specification in question provides a reasonable amount of guidance with respect to the direction in which the experimentation should proceed." Emphasis added. Applicants contend that generating antibodies is routine, as is screening their ability to bind and neutralize the activity of a polypeptide. As such, the present invention may readily be practiced by one of skill in the art.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that the foregoing arguments place this application now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action allowing pending claims 8-13 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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